

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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In April 1953, the Chinese Communist authorities in Foochow instructed local residence committees to hold a "People's Conference on Historical Clarification". All men and women between the ages of 18 and 45¹ were to be required to attend this conference and to give a frank report of their personal histories. Residence committees were also directed to launch a campaign whereby Communist cadres would investigate the personal histories, thoughts, speeches, and actions of Foochow residents. By these measures, the authorities could then determine who was eligible to vote in the forthcoming general election.

25X1 Comment. A great deal has come out in the Chinese Communist press and radio concerning Chinese Communist preparations for the national general election which, according to official pronouncements, will take place sometime in 1953. A of 7 April 1953 carried a detailed account of a directive on lower-level election work which had been issued by the Communist Central Election Committee on 3 April.

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25X1 Communist election law states only the minimum voting age requirement, which is 18 years.

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